

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, September 20, 2010, 4:30pm, at City Hall, Council Chambers.

Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannelly, Aimee Jacobsen and Attorney Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Lee Booth, Brenda Lorenz, Cheryl Kolb and Dan Dunten represented the department. Present from the City was Mayor Dennis, Clerk-Treasurer Judy Rhodes and Council member Vicki Burch. Absent from the meeting were Park Board member Richard Shockley, Council President Ann Hunt, and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Karen convened the Board at 4:34 pm.

Mayor Dennis swore in and welcomed new Park Board Member Aimee Jacobsen.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the August 16, 2010 meeting. Pat motioned to approve the minutes. John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing, referencing the section on the pervious concrete installation at Celery Bog Nature Area.
- Joe noted that tomorrow the N. River Rd. work would begin for the Wabash Heritage Trail extension.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- The 16<sup>th</sup> Global Fest was our best ever weather wise, with temperatures in the mid 70's. It was slow starting, but by noon, the entire event was full outside and inside the building. We had a record crowd from noon until around 3:30pm, with the crowd dwindling down, yet a continued steady stream of people attended. From comments I have heard, in general, people are still happy with the event. However, the committee feels that after 16 years it might be time to make some changes. A Strategic Plan will be formed to address some issues.

- I would like to thank my committee members, for whom without their help; we would not have a Festival. I would especially like to thank Karen Springer for doing double duty this year by being in charge of the Commercial Vendors and then filling in for our Food Chairman, Dot Wankat, while she is on sabbatical with her husband. I would also like to thank Linda Eales/Naturalization Ceremony, Ann Brandyberry/Volunteers, Tanny Dawson-Snyder/Entertainment, Mary Nauman & Anthony Barenie/Publicity, Mindy Jester/International Welcome, Lisa Ncube, Sonya Margerum, Nick Schenkel, Diane Damico & Tim Peoples/Go Greener Commission. A thank you goes to Brenda for handling all of the Cultural Booths and the inside of the building. The committee will be getting together soon to start on next years Festival planning.

A thank you goes out to Mayor Dennis for all of his fundraising efforts that resulted in raising \$18,000.00 for the event.

Without these donations, Global Fest would not be able to take place.

- Photos of the 2010 Global Fest were passed around the table.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections presented.
- Another successful Global Fest has taken place.
- Provided help with the “Art on the Wabash” event.
- Work continues on putting the rink back together.
- The pervious concrete parking spots were completed at Lilly Nature Center.
- Work has started on winterizing the pool.
- Work continues on grounds maintenance and keeping equipment up and running.

**Recreation Report** – Chris reported on the following:

- Registrations are now being accepted for all the fall classes. Brochures were mailed at the end of August. Priority registration was given to the mailed in registrations with all other forms of registrations being accepted September 8.
- Volleyball for Grades 4, 5 & 6 will begin this Saturday, September 25.

**Morton Center** – Brenda reported on the following:

- The summer registration total for Morton’s classes is 1,123 compared to last year’s summer enrollment of 1,199. It represents an enrollment decrease of 6%.
- Attended the Purdue Graduate Fair on August 20 and the Farmers Market on August 25 to promote Morton classes.
- The pavement in the children’s play area at Morton was repaired along the pathway leading to the building and the rest was seal coated. WALLA included an article in their recent newsletter about the repair and thanked Morton for the scheduled repair.
- Approximately 70 people attended WALLA’s political forum on Wednesday, September 15.
- Area IV’s Senior Art Show is on display at Morton in room 106 through October 7. We have some very talented seniors that have work in the exhibit.
- Art on the Wabash was held Sunday, September 19. We estimated attendance at 3,000.
- As part of the Coalition for Living Well after 50, we are encouraging everyone to attend the Just Walk event that is being given on Sunday, October 17. Family friendly activities take place at 1pm and the walk starts at 2pm at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. Participants in the free walk may walk the ½ mile or 2 mile course. Door prizes will be awarded. Pre-registration forms are available at Morton.

**Tommy Johnston Park Concerns**

Miscellaneous guests attended the meeting to voice their concerns over the possible sale and relocation of Tommy Johnston Park.

Among those guests were Brian Smith, a Purdue University junior in Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology. Mr. Smith presented his argument for keeping the park in the heavily populated student district, noting he sees the park consistently being used throughout the day. He also presented a picture from the past weekend, with their permission, of people enjoying the park. Mr. Smith also presented a petition with 277 names of individuals that support the following statement:

*“I believe that Tommy Johnston Park, located at Chauncey Avenue and Wood Street in West Lafayette, IN, should not be sold, but rather remain a recreational area for residents around the neighborhood.”*

Another guest, Karen Griggs, presented her argument urging the preservation of Tommy Johnston Park, stating, "Tommy Johnston Park is a valuable park for all of the residents of the city and the area. Despite its small size, it has recreational facilities that are sorely needed. In the neighborhood, there are very intensive developments of offices and apartments as well as private homes and Purdue University buildings. The park is a much-needed relief for those who walk and sit and rest and play games there." Other guests, speaking on behalf of leaving the park at its current location, were Tim & Beverly Volkman of West Lafayette, IN.

## **Old Business**

### **Tapawingo Park Use Agreement**

Andy discussed his overview of the agreement with the Board members. Joe followed up with information pertaining to the most recent use of the park by a corporate entity, Caterpillar & ABB. Sgt. Preston's catered the event, which allowed use of beer and wine in the park. The groups were very happy with the event; there was suggestion of possibly offering it next year. Discussion about the agreement continued. Pat motioned to approve the Tapawingo Park Use Agreement as presented. John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A question was raised regarding the Use Fees section and the paragraph that reads, "All checks for Use Fees should be made out to the West Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department." Currently for all other activities offered through the West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department, we ask that checks be made payable to the City of West Lafayette. Through clarification with Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, the decision was to revise the documentation. Pat amended the motion to include a revision to the Use Fee section that would read, "All checks for Use Fees should be made out to the City of West Lafayette." John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **Right-of-Way Easements**

Joe presented information and drawings pertaining to the request for temporary construction easement grants to Tippecanoe County (a total of three), necessary for the Lindberg Bridge project. Aimee motioned to approve the temporary easements as presented. Pat seconded the motion and the motion carried.

### **Maintenance Agreement for the Fitness Trail @ W.L.H.S.**

Joe presented an agreement pertaining to the maintenance for the West Lafayette Fitness Trail located at West Lafayette High School, outlining the expectations. Pat motioned to approve the agreement as presented. John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

## **New Business**

### **Request from Greater Lafayette Recreation Soccer Alliance**

Lee presented a request from the Greater Lafayette Soccer Alliance requesting a gas-powered golf cart in Cumberland Park. Discussion followed. Pat motioned to table this item until more information is available. John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**West Lafayette School Board** – Karen reported the following:

- In June 2009, a Corporation Strategic Planning process began. A committee of approximately twenty-five people from all corporation stakeholders established short-term and long-term goals. Some corporation financial goals were addressed last year. Also last year action teams were formed and began work on implementation strategies for curriculum goals. The plan is on target to be presented to the School Board in early November for approval.
- Dr. Killian and board members will be presenting at the Indiana School Board Association Fall Conference next week on the General Fund Referendum Process. The presentation has also been accepted for the National School Board's Association annual meeting next April.

**Wabash River**

Joe noted nothing new to report on since last WREC meeting. Joe also spoke about an upcoming water-sampling project, in which some of the department's staff would be helping to obtain those samples.

**Other**

**Friends of the Celery Bog**

Joe noted he will be speaking tomorrow at the Friends of the Celery Bog meeting.

**Pay Claims**

John motioned for claims to be paid. Aimee seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Karen noted the next Park Board meeting will be October 18, 4:30pm, at Riverside Skating Center.

**Adjourn**

Pat motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary